

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-09 EB-07

AID-05 COME-00 LAB-04 TRSE-00 DIWY-01 STR-04 PA-02

PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02 /119 W

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R 111637Z APR 75

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9854

USMISSION VIENNA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 1168

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNIDO, UN, PE

SUBJ: AMB BENNETT'S PRESS BRIEFING HELD APRIL 4, 1975,
ON UNIDO GC-II

1. QUOTED BELOW ARE THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF AMB BENNETT'S
PRESS BRIEFING FOR THE UN PRESS CORPS HELD APRIL 4. THE
COMPLETE TEXT WILL BE POUCHED.

BEGIN QUOTE:

MR. SHELDON (COUNSELLOR, PUBLIC AFFAIRS):

FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF A PRESS BRIEFING HELD APRIL
4, 1975 BY AMBASSADOR W. TAPLEY BENNETT, JR., DEPUTY UNITED
STATES REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS, AND CHAIRMAN
OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIALIZED DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE IN
LIMA, PERU, MARCH 12 TO MARCH 27, 1975.

MR. SHELDON: WELL, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE HAD A
NUMBER OF REQUESTS TO AMBASSADOR BENNETT TO COME OVER AND
BE AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS. AS YOU KNOW, HE WAS THE CHIEF
UNITED STATES DELEGATE, HEADED THE DELEGATION OF THE
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U.S. TO THE UNIDO CONFERENCE AT LIMA PERU. AMBASSADOR BENNETT

WILL MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT AND THEN WILL BE HAPPY TO
TAKE YOUR QUESTIONS.

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: WELL, I MIGHT JUST SAY IT IS A
PLEASURE TO COME AND MEET WITH YOU. AT LEAST IT IS A
PLEASURE THUS FAR; WE WILL SEE HOW IT WORKS OUT.

THE CONFERENCE WAS, AS YOU KNOW, THE SECOND GENERAL
CONFERENCE OF UNIDO. DELEGATIONS REPRESENTING MORE THAN
100 COUNTRIES ATTENDED, AND THERE WERE 107 GENERAL DEBATE
STATEMENTS. THOSE WERE NOT ALL NATIONAL DELEGATIONS BECAUSE
THERE WERE QUITE A FEW ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED WHICH
MADE THEIR OWN STATEMENTS IN THE GENERAL DEBATE. BUT IT
WAS A SIZEABLE MEETING. IT WAS A LONG AND TIME-CONSUMING
NEGOTIATION.

THERE WERE TWO MAIN COMMITTEES OR COMMISSIONS, AND THERE
WAS THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE. THE LATTER WAS MODIFIED TOWARDS
THE END IN AN EFFORT TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO SOME OF THE
PARAGRAPHS THAT HAD NOT BEEN NEGOTIATED. THE PRESIDENT
APPOINTED HIS OWN COMMITTEE IN AN EFFORT TO GET A SMALL
GROUP THAT COULD WORK WITH MORE DISPATCH. THE PRESIDENT'S
COMMITTEE MET AS A RATHER OPEN-ENDED GROUP IN THE SENSE
THAT IT MET IN THE PRESIDENT'S SUITE BUT OTHERS COULD
ATTEND AND AT TIMES MAKE POINTS IF THEY WISHED.

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE DID HAVE THE EFFECT OF BRINGING
THE NUMBERS DOWN INTO A MANAGEABLE PROPORTION AND SOME OF
THOSE MEETINGS, AS INDEED THOSE OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE,
WENT ON UNTIL THREE IN THE MORNING OF FIVE IN THE MORNING
IN THE WAY OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. THE FINAL PLENARY
SESSION DID NOT START UNTIL 2 A.M. BECAUSE WE WERE
WAITING FOR DOCUMENTS; THE FINAL VOTE WAS TAKEN AT TEN
MINUTES TO SIX, AND THERE WAS ANOTHER HOUR OR SO
BEFORE THE FINAL ADJOURNMENT ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 27,
THE CONFERENCE HAVING BEEN SET TO RUN FROM THE 12TH TO THE
26TH OF MARCH.

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR UNIDO-II, WHILE THEY WERE PRO-
TRACTED OVER A TWO-YEAR PERIOD, IN SOME WAYS I THINK
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WERE NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY IN THE SENSE THAT DOCUMENTS
WERE PRESENTED QUITE LATE AND THERE REALLY WASN'T
TIME TO CONSIDER THEM, CONSIDERING THE IMPORTANCE OF SOME
OF THE ISSUES THAT WERE INVOLVED. THERE WAS ALSO THE
QUESTION OF WHETHER THE AGENDA WAS TOO CROWDED FOR A
CONFERENCE WHICH WAS INTENDED TO DEAL WITH INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT. I THINK TOO MANY EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES WERE BROUGHT
IN THROUGH ONE OR ANOTHER OF THE DECLARATIONS THAT WERE

BEFORE US FOR CONSIDERATION. AND I THINK IT'S JUST IMPOSSIBLE
IN A TWO-WEEK PERIOD TO SETTLE THE FATE OF THE WORLD,
AS SOME DELEGATES SEEMED TO CONSIDER THAT WAS OUR MISSION.

I WOULD HOPE IN THE FUTURE, AS WE LOOK TOWARDS THE SPECIAL
SESSION, WE CAN HAVE SOME AGREEMENT ON A SMALLER NUMBER
OF ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA, A SMALLER NUMBER OF ISSUES TO
CONCERN US, AND IN THAT WAY MAKE OUR WORK MORE EXPEDITIOUS
AND MORE EFFICIENT IN THE SHORT TIME THAT ONE INEVITABLY
HAS FOR THIS KIND OF MEETING.

I THINK THAT'S ABOUT WHAT I HAVE TO SAY TO START OUT.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS --

Q. IT'S ALL TOO MUCH TO GRASP HERE WHEN YOU CONSIDER
A 57 POINT DECLARATION. I DON'T THINK THAT THE TEXT
HAS EVEN REACHED THE PRESS IN THIS HOUSE. TO TRY TO COPE
WITH THE SITUATION SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN KIND ENOUGH
TO INVITE US HERE, IT SEEMS TO ME, AND I'D LIKE YOU TO
COMMENT ON MY IMPRESSION, THAT WHAT YOU CALL EXTRANEIOUS
ISSUES MAY BE ISSUES OF THE QUESTION OF RELATIVITY.
THAT IS TO SAY, THE WHOLE QUESTION, THE WORD EXTRANEIOUS
SEEMS TO ME TO BE THE MAGNETIC CENTER FOR WHAT CONSTITUTES
THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. SO THAT THERE IS SOME
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC.

NOW, IS THAT THE DIFFICULTY THAT'S GOING TO CONFRONT
THE SPECIAL SESSION? THAT'S QUESTION A. AND QUESTION B,
DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR VOTE AND SOME OF THE OTHER OPPOSING
VOTES FROM THE COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES, PLUS THE AB-
STENTIONS, CONSTITUTES AGAIN THE ANCIENT DIVISION BETWEEN
THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THAT THIS
DOES NOT AUGUR WELL FOR ANYTHING MORE THAN A DEADLOCK
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AND A SPLIT IN THE SEVENTH SESSION THAT THE SIXTH SESSION'S
RESERVATIONS BASICALLY WILL REMAIN THE SAME?

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: WELL, IF I CAN DIVIDE THAT, CERTAINLY
I THINK THERE WILL BE A PROBLEM OF REDUCING THE NUMBER
OF ISSUES TO WHAT I WOULD CONSIDER MANAGEABLE PROPORTIONS.
TO ANSWER YOUR FIRST QUESTION, I AM SURE THAT THERE WILL
BE A PROBLEM. I AM JUST FLAGGING IT - IF WE ARE GOING TO
HAVE AN EFFICIENT CONFERENCE, WE HAVE GOT TO REDUCE
THE ISSUES TO THE NUMBER AND DIMENSIONS THAT PEOPLE CAN
HANDLE IN A TWO OR THREE-WEEK MEETING.

NOW, AS TO THE VOTING AND THE SPLITS, OBVIOUSLY THERE
ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION. I SUSPECT THOSE WILL CONTINUE,
UNTIL WE CAN, BOTH SIDES, LEARN TO COME TOWARDS THE MIDDLE

AND FIND SOMETHING WE CAN AGREE ON IN A LARGER FRAMEWORK.

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ACTION IO-10

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TO AMEMBASSY LIMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9855

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Q. YOUR REASONS FOR YOUR NEGATIVE VOTE (ON THE LIMA TEXTS AS A WHOLE), WERE THEY ONLY TECHNICAL REASONS IN THE SENSE OF MODALITY THROUGH THE UNDP, OR WERE THEY ALSO REASONS OF PRINCIPLE?

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: QUITE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES, YES. FOR ONE, THE EXPROPRIATION OF INVESTMENTS WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE TO INTERNATIONAL LAW. THIS IS A VERY FUNDAMENTAL POSITION WITH US AND WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THERE WERE A NUMBER OF ISSUES. IN FACT, THE VOTES WE ASKED FOR ON TEN SEPARATE PARAGRAPHS WERE ALL ON ISSUES WHICH WE REGARDED AS FUNDAMENTAL. I MADE THE STATEMENT IN THE FINAL SESSION THAT, WHILE WE HAD HEARD A GREAT DEAL FROM THE GROUP OF 77 ABOUT FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THEY COULD NOT YIELD EVEN SO MUCH AS A WORD, THEY MUST REALIZE THAT WE TOO HAVE SOME FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES. WE CONCEDE THE RIGHT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ANY COUNTRY, ANY GOVERNMENT, TO HAVE PRINCIPLES THAT IT CONSIDERS FUNDAMENTAL AND TO MAKE THOSE KNOWN AND TO DEFEND THEM. A D I WOULD ASSUME THAT THEY WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT WE ALSO HAVE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES THAT WE WOULD MAKE KNOWN AND DEFEND.

Q. IS THAT EXPROPRIATION WITH COMPENSATION OR THE PRINCIPLE
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OF THE RIGHT OF EXPROPRIATION?

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: NO, NOT AT ALL. THE UNITED STATES
HAS LONG ACCEPTED EXPROPRIATION, OR NATIONALIZATION.
IT IS A QUESTION OF WHAT KIND OF TREATMENT IT HAS
IN THE WAY OF COMPENSATION, WHICH MUST BE SUBJECT TO THE
NORMAL RULES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW THAT HAVE BEEN WORKED
OUT WITH SUCH EFFORT AND PAIN OVER SO MANY YEARS.

Q. WELL, AMBASSADOR BENNETT, I NOTICE FROM THE ROUNDUP
HERE THAT WE RECEIVED AND, AS YOU SAID, THERE WERE TEN
SEPARATE VOTES TAKEN AND RESERVATIONS, AND IT SEEMS TO
ME THAT THOSE, I GET THE IMPRESSION SINCE THERE WERE ONLY
TEN VOTES, THAT THESE TEN VOTES EMBODIED THE GENERAL
OBJECTIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION HAD. IN THAT CASE --

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: WELL, NOT ONLY OURSELVES. WE ASKED
FOR VOTES ON SEPARATE PARAGRAPHS, AND THE GERMAN DELEGATION
AND THE BRITISH DELEGATION ASKED FOR VOTES ON CERTAIN
PARAGRAPHS, AND THE JAPANESE ON ONE I BELIEVE.

Q. ALTOGETHER I THINK THEY AMOUNTED TO TEN.

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: THAT'S RIGHT.

Q. WELL, DEDUCTING THAT FROM 57, WE STILL HAVE 47 WHICH
EMBODIES A LOT OF THINGS. WHY WAS IT NECESSARY FOR THE
UNITED STATES TO ISOLATE ITSELF EVEN FROM ITS OWN ECONOMIC
ALLIES OR FRIENDLY ECONOMIC NATIONS TO VOTE NEGATIVELY
ON THE WHOLE DOCUMENT? WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE SATISFIED
YOURSELVES --

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES
HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT IS NOT GOING TO AGREE
TO A DOCUMENT WHICH IGNORES INTERNATIONAL LAW ON SUCH
A FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE SUCH AS EXPROPRIATION. NOW, OF
COURSE, THERE ARE OTHER ITEMS WHICH WE ALSO REGARDED AS
FUNDAMENTAL.

THERE WERE SOME 21 VOTES OPPOSING SOME OF THE PARAGRAPHS --
EITHER NEGATIVE VOTES OR ABSTENTIONS. SOME SEEMED TO CONCLUDE
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THAT THEY COULD VOTE NO OR ABSTAIN ON A NUMBER OF PARAGRAPHS AND THEN STILL VOTE YES ON THE WHOLE DOCUMENT. THAT DOESN'T SEEM VERY LOGICAL TO US, AND WE VOTED NO FOR THE WHOLE DOCUMENT.

Q. DO YOU THINK THAT THESE BASIC VOTES EMBODYING THE VERY BASIC DIFFERENCES IN THOSE TEN VOTES, THAT THEY POLLUTED THE WHOLE DOCUMENT?

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: YES, I WOULD HAVE TO SAY THAT, I GUESS. WELL, THE WORD POLLUTION IS NOT MINE.

Q. I KNOW.

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: BUT THEY MADE THE DOCUMENT FLAWED IN OUR VIEW.

I MUST SAY THAT THERE WERE OTHER PARAGRAPHS, AS I SAID IN MY FINAL REMARKS THERE, THAT WE DID NOT PARTICULARLY LIKE, BUT WE WERE TRYING TO CONFINE THE VOTING TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM, AND SO WE DID NOT ASK FOR VOTES ON SOME OTHER PARAGRAPHS THAT WE DID NOT PARTICULARLY LIKE.

Q. MR. AMBASSADOR --

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: YES?

Q. HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN TO THE PUBLIC WHAT CAME OUT OF THIS CONFERENCE IN PRACTICAL TERMS? YOU HAVE A DECLARATION THE UNITED STATES VOTED AGAINST. DOES IT MEAN THE UNITED STATES SIMPLY IGNORES IT?

AMBASSADOR BENNETT: WELL, NO. I THINK THE CONFERENCE, AND THE DOCUMENT ITSELF, AS WITH SO MANY MEETINGS THESE DAYS, WAS VERY USEFUL REPRESENTATION OF FRUSTRATIONS, AND ASPIRATIONS, THAT MY GOVERNMENT CERTAINLY UNDERSTANDS. AS WE TRIED TO MAKE CLEAR IN OUR GENERAL STATEMENT, WE SYMPATHIZE WITH INDUSTRIALIZATION AND NO ONE IS MORE COMMITTED TO IT THAN WE. I DON'T THINK ANY COUNTRY HAS COMMITTED MORE TO TRYING TO GET IT GOING -- THE TRANSFERS OF TECHNOLOGY AND ALL THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS OF THIS.

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THERE IS NO QUESTION OF WHETHER THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE GOING TO INDUSTRIALIZE. THE QUESTION IS HOW. AND SO I WANT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT U.S. SYMPATHY IS THERE AND WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK WITH OTHERS ON IT.

THIS KIND OF A MEETING IS USEFUL IN THAT IT SHOWS THE CONCERNS AND FEELINGS THAT MANY COUNTRIES HAVE.

THESE FEELINGS ARE UNDERSTANDABLE. AS I SAY, ONE UNDERSTANDS
THE FRUSTRATIONS, BUT WE TOO HAVE SOME POINTS OF VIEW
THAT WE BELIEVE WE MUST MAKE KNOWN. UNQTE.
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